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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

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COUNTRY Brazil/Lithuania/Uruguay

DATE: 25X1A

INFO.

SUBJECT Lithuanian Communist Activities in Brazil

DIST. 11 August 1947

PAGES 2

SUPPLEMENT

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ORIGIN

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1. A recent occurrence pointed to a close contact between the Soviet Embassy in Rio de Janeiro and the Lithuanian Communists of Sao Paulo, who in the brief period of the legality of the Partido Comunista Brasileiro (PCB) are observed as having played an increasingly important role in Brazil. A serious argument over finances caused a division of the Lithuanian communists into two opposing factions, both of which sent emissaries to Rio de Janeiro to consult with the Soviet Embassy in an attempt to obtain support for their respective causes. When the Embassy was unable to settle the dispute, the Communist Party was petitioned to set up a special court to investigate the matter, which as yet remains unresolved.
2. The dissension among the Lithuanian communists, referred to above, arose out of the distribution of Cr\$150.000,00 (US\$ 7,500.00) that they raised after the Montevideo Congress.* The money should have been sent to Lithuania for the ostensible purpose of building a school, but a group of local leaders decided to remit only Cr\$110.000,00, keeping Cr\$40.000,00 to be spent on propaganda in Brazil. The Central Committee in Montevideo objected and a violent disagreement followed.
3. As a result, the Directorate of the Cruzeiro do Sul,** composed of Afonso Marna, Antonio Zokas, and Anselmo Cerniauskas, who were responsible for the retention in Sao Paulo of the CR 40.000,00, were removed from office during a stormy session of the society. However, being old-line militant communists with a substantial following, these men soon returned to the struggle and proposed the expulsion from the Communist Party of those who had led the movement against them in the Cruzeiro do Sul, namely Magda Valentas, Antonio Vaivuskas, and one Azulionis or Ajulionis.
4. Although the Sao Paulo Lithuanian colony consists chiefly of manual or domestic laborers with limited material and cultural resources, it has made proportionately substantial contributions to local Communist activities. Its members appear at all public manifestations sponsored by the Party, assist in preparation for meetings, disseminate propaganda, make collections, and contribute freely from their own limited funds. It is believed that they are organizing for future subversive activities. The outstanding Lithuanian communists of Sao Paulo are the following:

Antonio Zokas
Afonso Marna
Pedro Valentas
Madalena Valentas

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Paulina Cerniauskas
 Juozas Liaugaudas
 Bruno Bubnys
 Jono Bubnys
 Jono Petrauskas
 Kazys Potrokas
 Vladas Blukas
 Afonso (Albino) Kuciuskas
 Joso Armonas
 Jono Blauzdys
 Leonardo Samuuskas
 Antonio Vaituskas (Reported to be Lithuanian communist leader of all Latin America. Once deported from Brazil for activities, but later granted amnesty by the Vargas Government).

Of these, the first two are considered the most active and influential. All of them have been very zealous in supporting the PCB, although their first loyalty is to the Communist Party in Lithuania or Russia. Through liaison officers they coordinate their propaganda and other activities with the PCB and with other foreign Communist groups operating in Brazil.

5. In February 1947, a new society was organized in Sao Paulo, apparently to coordinate the Lithuanian and Slavic activities, and perhaps also to constitute a reserve unit in the event that the Cruzeiro do Sul should be closed by the police. This organization was called the Sociedade Cultural Molotov, and it held its meetings at Rua das Roseiras 26-28, in the suburb of Vila Bela. It has been noted that a representative of the PCB is always present at these meetings, which are regularly attended by Lithuanian and Russian communists.

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Comments: *About the end of 1946 there was organized in Montevideo a Central Lithuanian Committee composed of 3 representatives each of the Lithuanian communists of Brazil, Argentina, and Uruguay.

**Formerly called the Sociedade Rytas, the Cruzeiro do Sul was founded by Bruno Chabrinskas, Afonso Marna, Antonio Zukas, and Albino Kynas (who was deported from Brazil, fought in the International Brigade in Spain, is reported to have acted as a Soviet espionage agent just before World War II in Germany and along the East Prussian frontier, and recently has been rumored to have returned to Brazil.) This organization serves as an active unit in the clandestine communist organization.

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